

### Voltage Variable Attenuator

5 - 45 GHz

#### Features

- 5 45 GHz frequency range
- 2 dB typical insertion loss
- >30 dB attenuation range
- High linearity, 30 dBm IIP3

Ordering Information <sup>1,2</sup>

Part Number

MAAT-010521-TR0500

MAAT-010521-TR3000

MAAT-010521 -001SMB

2. All sample boards include 5 loose parts.

- Lead-Free 3 mm, 16-Lead QFN Package
- RoHS\* Compliant and 260°C Reflow Compatible

#### Description

The MAAT-010521 is a voltage variable attenuator with analog control and up to 40 dB of attenuation. Excellent linearity is maintained over the full attenuation range. The attenuation level is set by two control voltages of 0 to -2V.

The 3mm QFN package is RoHS compliant and compatible with reflow temperatures to 260°C. Applications include transceivers for cellular infrastructure.

Package

500 piece reel

3000 piece reel

Sample Test Board

#### **Functional Block Diagram**



### Pin Configuration<sup>3,4</sup>

Function		
No Connection		
Ground		
RF Input		
Ground		
No Connection		
VC1		
VC2		
No Connection		
Ground		
RF Output		
Ground		
No Connection		

\* Restrictions on Hazardous Substances,

1. Reference Application Note M513 for reel size information.

European Union Directive 2002/95/EC.

3. It is recommended to connect unused pins to ground.

The exposed pad centered on the package bottom must be connected to RF and DC ground.

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Parameter	Test Conditions	Units	Min.	Тур.	Max.	
Insertion Loss (Vc1 and Vc2 = -2.0V)	10 GHz 20 GHz 40 GHz	dB		2 2 3	4 4 6	
Attenuation $(Vc1 and Vc2 = 0V)^5$	10 GHz 20 GHz 40 GHz	dB	26 34 34	30 40 40	- - -	
Input P1dB	5 GHz to 25 GHz 25 GHz to 40 GHz	dBm	_	25 22	_	
IIP3 (any attenuation)	Pin=10 dB/tone	dBm		30		
Input Return Loss (any attenuation)		dB		10		
Output Return Loss (any attenuation)		dB	_	10	_	

#### Electrical Specifications: $T_A = +25^{\circ}C$ , $Z_0 = 50 \Omega$ , Pin = -10 dBm

5. To increase attenuation from min. attenuation state (VC1 = -2V and VC2 = -2V) to max attenuation state (VC1 = 0V and VC2 = 0V), VC1 increases to full range prior to adjusting VC2.

### Absolute Maximum Ratings <sup>6,7</sup>

Parameter	Absolute Maximum		
Input Power	+30 dBm		
Voltage (RF pins)	30 volts		
Voltage (control pins)	+1 to -6 volts		
Storage Temperature	-55°C to +150°C		
Case Temperature	-40°C to +85°C		

6. Exceeding any one or combination of these limits may cause permanent damage to this device.

7. M/A-COM Technology does not recommend sustained operation near these survivability limits.

#### Operating at high levels of attenuation:

The MAAT-010521 is a two stage attenuator, with each stage consisting of a sequence of shunt FETs distributed along a transmission line. As the FETs are turned on, that is, as the control voltage increases towards zero volts, the attenuation between RF input and RF output increases. However, as the shunt FET channels are opened, they become more sensitive to voltage swings induced by the RF signal itself, and it is possible that the attenuation level will vary as the signal power increases. The second stage, which handles large levels of attenuation, is sensitive to this effect. Therefore, should operation with VC2 in the range -0.7 to 0 V be considered, it is recommended that care be taken to verify that the attenuation level and signal power range are compatible with the intended operating range of the attenuator.

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### **Typical Performance Curves: S-Parameters**



0 -10 S11 (dB) -20 -30 -40 5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 Frequency (GHz)

#### **Output Return Loss**



	• VC1=0, VC2=-0.7	
VC1=0, VC2=-0.3	VC1=0, VC2=-2	VC1=-0.5, VC2=-2
	••••••• VC1=-0.1, VC2=-2	
VC1=0, VC2=-0.5	VC1=-0.2, VC2=-2	VC1=-0.7, VC2=-2
••••• VC1=0, VC2=-0.6	•••••• VC1=-0.3, VC2=-2	••••• VC1=-2, VC2=-2

#### Input Return Loss

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#### **Typical Performance Curves: S-Parameters**











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### Voltage Variable Attenuator 5 - 45 GHz

#### **Typical Performance Curves: Gain**

#### Gain vs. Pin (VC1 = -2, VC2 = -2) @ 15 GHz



Gain vs. Pin (VC1 = -0.4, VC2 = -2) @ 15 GHz







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Gain vs. Pin (VC1 = -2, VC2 = -2)



Gain vs. Pin (VC1 = -0.4, VC2 = -2)



Gain vs. Pin (VC1 = 0, VC2 = -0.6)



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#### **Typical Performance Curves: Input IP3**

#### Input IP3 (VC1 = -2, VC2 = -2)



#### Input IP3 (Pin per tone = 10 dBm)



#### Input IP3 (VC1 = -0.4, VC2 = -2)

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#### Handling Procedures

The following precautions should be observed to avoid damage:

#### Static Sensitivity

Gallium Arsenide Integrated Circuits are sensitive to electrostatic discharge (ESD) and can be damaged by static electricity. Proper ESD control techniques should be used when handling these class 1C (HBM) devices.

#### Lead-Free 3 mm 16-Lead PQFN<sup>†</sup>



<sup>†</sup> Reference Application Note M538 for lead-free solder reflow recommendations. Meets JEDEC moisture sensitivity level 1 requirements. Plating is NiPdAuAg.

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